

Minist<sup>y</sup> of the United States  
Philadelphia, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 1838.

Dear Sir,  
I have to acknowledge the receipt of  
your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> inst., respecting counter-  
feit coins.

The letter from Messrs. Woodward & Loeb,  
which was sent with the Counterfeit Half  
Dollar, does not mention from whom they ob-  
tained it, but states simply "We take the  
liberty of enclosing you a specimen of the work  
of some radical or radicalist which has fallen  
into our hands, &c." The letter goes on to  
make mention of other imitations, but con-  
tains no information that could aid you  
in your investigations. It may then proper  
to mention that Messrs. Woodward & Loeb are  
Silversmiths and refiners, and have been  
long business for the Mint. There is  
doubt that they will furnish communications to  
you any information that they may pos-  
sess.

My letter to the Secretary of the Treasury,  
of which you have a copy, contains all the  
information that we could obtain from an  
examination of the counterfeit dollar. The

It contained, however, a mistake of a figure which I pray you to correct, - the specific gravity of the metal being stated at  $7\frac{1}{2}$  instead of  $8\frac{1}{2}$ .

~~The counterfeit Spanish~~

We have received lately, from one of the Banks at Baltimore, <sup>five</sup> other specimens of counterfeit American Half Dollars, but they are not from the same die, nor of the same metal, as that sent from Brooklyn. They are found to contain 96, 27.8, 20.9, and 43.8 per cent of silver, while the Brooklyn specimens contain no silver, or but a mere trace.

Charles

The counterfeit Spanish Milled Dollars which you sent for our examination is not executed as to the impression, but the metal is easily distinguished from silver. The specific gravity is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  instead of  $10\frac{1}{2}$ . The piece is nearly 5 drs too light. But adding those that it is principally composed of tin, with a <sup>small quantity</sup> of copper, but without any silver?

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant

J. Wm. Price, Esq.  
U. S. District Attorney  
New York.

R. M. P.  
Director of the Mint